



MEPI Student Leaders Program

The Student Leaders program is an intensive exchange program to the United States. Approximately 100 students are expected to participate in 2012, joining nearly 1,000 program alumni. The program will last six weeks, from June 26 - August 7, 2012. Students are divided among up to six U.S. academic institutions where they develop leadership skills and expand their understanding of civil society, as well as the democratic process and how both may be applied in their home communities. Participants have the opportunity to meet their American peers, engage in local community service activities, and observe and take part in the governmental process on the local, state, and federal levels. The institutes include academic coursework, as well as study tours to various regions of the United States. Upon completion of the U.S.-based programs, host institutes work with participants to implement civic engagement programs in their home communities. An alumni event will be held in the region approximately 6 months after the U.S. portion of the program. Students must return home immediately upon conclusion of the program. All participants are expected to travel unaccompanied. Due to the rigorous academic and program schedule, travel to visit family or friends elsewhere in the United States will not be permitted before, during, or after the program, including on weekends during the academic residency period.

Ideal candidates for the MEPI Student Leaders Program:

- a. Are 20 to 24 years of age;
- b. Demonstrate English language ability;
- c. Are committed to returning to their home country/community following completion of the program;
- d. Demonstrate strong leadership potential;
- e. Indicate a serious interest in learning about the United States;
- f. Have a sustained high level of academic achievement;
- g. Demonstrate a commitment to civic engagement;
- h. Have no prior travel experience in the United States and limited to no study or travel experience outside their home country;
- i. Are willing and able to participate fully in intensive academic, community service, and educational travel activities;
- j. Are comfortable with campus life, sharing living accommodations while traveling with a multinational group of participants from the Middle East and North Africa region and with U.S. citizens, and making adjustments to cultural and social practices different from those of their home countries/communities; and
- k. Are comfortable spending a portion of Ramadan in the U.S.

How To Apply:

Interested Applicants should fill out the application below and fulfill the required documents mentioned in the Application

Applications are due to the U.S. Embassy in Kuwait no later than February 7, 2012. For further information, email kuwaitmepi@state.gov



The Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI)
Student Leaders Program

Summer 2012 Application



PLEASE SCAN COMPLETE APPLICATION AND E-MAIL TO kuwaitmepi@state.gov BEFORE February 7, 2012

1. YOUR NAME _____
(as it appears on your passport) *Family* *First* *Middle*

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Permanent mailing address:

Mobile telephone: _____

Home telephone: _____

E-mail address: _____

2- PLEASE ATTACH AN UPDATED RESUME HIGHLIGHTING MEPI CIVIC ENGAGEMENT LEADERSHIP OR WORK EXPERIENCE, EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND ACADEMIC HONORS.

3- PLEASE ATTACH A COPY OF PHOTO PAGE OF YOUR PASSPORT

4- NAME OF YOUR COLLEGE /UNIVERSITY

University Name: _____ Major Field: _____

5- PLEASE ATTACH EVIDENCE OF HIGH ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT – TRANSCRIPTS, AWARDS, RESEARCH COMPLETED, ETC.

6- UNITED STATES EXPERIENCE

Please describe any previous travel or study in the United States. If you have not traveled to the United States, indicate “none.”

Travel Dates MM/YY – MM/YY		Travel Purpose (e.g. vacation, school, etc.)	US Government Program? Y/N

7- PLEASE WRITE AN ESSAY OF NO MORE THAN 1,000 WORDS WHICH ANSWERS THE FOLLOWING TWO QUESTIONS:

- 1- NAME ONE LEADER LIVING TODAY THAT YOU ADMIRE AND EXPLAIN WHY, WHAT QUALITIES DOES HE OR SHE HAVE THAT MAKE HIM OR HER AN EFFECTIVE LEADER?**
- 2- HOW WILL YOUR PARTICIPATION IN MEPI STUDENT LEADERS PROGRAM BENEFIT YOU AND OTHERS?**